

Remarks

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner has restricted the application to one invention under 35 U.S.C. §121 and has identified two species.

Claims 1-86 were originally presented for Examination. Claims 20-50 and 71-86 have been cancelled by way of the present response. Claims 1-19 and 51-70 are currently pending, of which, claims 1, 51 and 66 are in independent form. Favorable consideration of the present Response as currently constituted is respectfully requested.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has restricted the application to one invention under 35 U.S.C. §121. Specifically, the Examiner has identified the following three inventions:

- I. Claims 1-76, drawn to either an expandable sand control screen or a method of completing a wellbore, classified in class 166, subclass 369;
- II. Claims 77-81, drawn to a method for delivery of a treatment chemical into a downhole environment, classified in class 166, subclass 310; and
- III. Claims 82-86, drawn to a method of production profile management, classified in class 166, subclass 386.

In addition, the Examiner has identified claims directed to the following two patentably distinct species:

- A. The species including a crushable filler material in claims 20-50 and 71-76; and
- B. The species including a compressible filler material that resiliently recovers downhole in claims 5-19, 51-65 and 67-70.

The Examiner has identified claims 1-5 as generic.

The applicant has elected the claims of invention I; namely, claims 1-76 and has cancelled the claims of inventions II and III; namely; claims 77-81 and claims 82-86. In addition, the applicant has elected species B; namely, claims 5-19, 51-65 and 67-70 and has cancelled the claims of species A; namely claims 20-50 and 71-76. The applicant has carefully reviewed the Examiner's restriction requirement and his designation of generic claims. The applicant disagrees with the Examiner's statement that claim 5 is generic and believes that claims 1-4 and 66 are the generic claims. The present Response reflects this belief.

Fee Statement

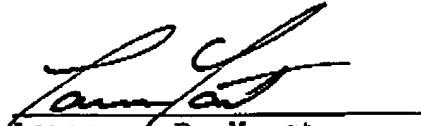
Compared to the initial filing, in the present Response, the number of independent claims has been reduced and the total number of claims has been reduced. Applicant believes no fees are due for the filing of this Response. If any additional fees are due or overpayment have been made, please charge or credit, our Deposit Account No. 03-1130.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to examine and allow claims 1-19 and 51-70 presented for consideration herein. Accordingly, a favorable action in the form of an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this 7th day of April, 2005.

Respectfully submitted:



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